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Application No.: 09/810,599
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PATENT

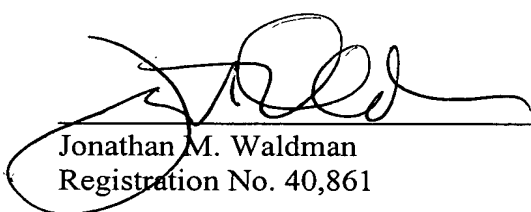
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, and 13-15 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of co-pending application number 09/749,195. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, and 13-15 are not subject to a double patenting rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1-5 of co-pending application number 09/749,195 were canceled by Examiner's amendment dated September 29, 2003 (included with the Notice of Allowance dated October 2, 2003). Thus, claims 1-5 are no longer pending in application number 09/749,195. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, and 13-15 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and issuance of a Notice of Allowance with respect thereto. If the Examiner has any further matters requiring discussion, please contact the undersigned.

Date: January 14, 2004



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